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RECEIVED

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FCC MAIL ROOM

April 11, 2000

Magalie Roman Salas
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Ex Parte Concerning: In the matter of: GTE
Corporation Transferor, and Bell Atlantic
Corporation Transferee For Consent to
Transfer of Control CC Docket No. 98-184

Dear Ms. Salas:

At an earlier date the Office of Consumer Advocate spoke with Johanna Mikes of the Common Carrier Bureau who had requested an example of a Lifeline program that we support and would comply with the State Advocates' Comments. In addition, she had requested data about the number of households nationally that lived below 150 percent of poverty.

In response to her request we have now sent a copy of the California tariff for Pacific Bell which describes a Lifeline program that determines eligibility through income criteria, not program participation, and places no restrictions on services. We also enclosed a chart that provides data on the number of households with incomes below 150 percent of poverty. We are attaching those documents to this letter.

No. of Copies rec'd 0
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Page 2

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or comments regarding the above-captioned matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Philip F. McClelland". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Philip" being more prominent.

Philip F. McClelland

Senior Assistant Consumer Advocate

Enclosures

*57779

National Households in Poverty¹

Ratio of Income to Poverty	Number of Households	Percent of Total Households
[0.50	2,873	4.00
[1.00	7,186	10.00
[1.25	9,714	13.60
[1.50	12,496	17.50

Date: April 5, 2000

¹ Source: Dalaker, Joseph, U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Reports, Series P60-207, *Poverty in the United States: 1998*, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1999. The figures were derived from Table 2. This is the most recent data available from the U.S. Census Bureau.

² Numbers are in thousands.

³ Total number of households as of 1998 was 71,551 (in thousands).

NETWORK AND EXCHANGE SERVICES

A5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE (Cont'd)

5.2.5 LOCAL SERVICE OPTIONS (Cont'd)

E. UNIVERSAL LIFELINE TELEPHONE SERVICE

1. DESCRIPTION

ULTS includes:

- a. Installation of a residence primary access line.
- b. Reserved
- c. Basic dial tone service.
- d. Unlimited incoming calls.
- e. Measured rate service with an allowance of 60 untimed local calls per month.

Flat rate service with unlimited local calls.

- f. Toll blocking as described in Section A5.2.5.C is available at no charge, pursuant to FCC 97-157. (T)
(N)
- g. Provision of an allowance for the applicable Federal Communications Commission (F.C.C.) End User Common Line Charge (EUCL).
- h. Reserved
- i. If required, one installation every 12 months of inside wire of a residence primary access line including the primary standard jack, at 50% of the nonregulated charges when the work is performed by the Utility. No carry-over credit will be given for years in which no installation at reduced rates is made. (L)
(L)

(L) Formerly on Sheet 348

Continued

NETWORK AND EXCHANGE SERVICES

A5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

- 5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE (Cont'd)
- 5.2.5 LOCAL SERVICE OPTIONS (Cont'd)
- E. UNIVERSAL LIFELINE TELEPHONE SERVICE (Cont'd)

2. REGULATIONS

(L)

- a. The following criteria for eligibility apply to ULTS:

- (1) The residence premises at which the service is requested is the applicant's principal place of residence.

The residence premises household (dwelling unit) shall consist of that portion of an individual house or building or one flat or apartment occupied entirely by a single family or individuals functioning as one domestic establishment.

A room or portion of a residential premises occupied exclusively by an individual not sharing equally as a member of the domestic for establishment may be considered a separate dwelling unit (premises) the application of ULTS.

(L)

Material on this sheet formerly on Sheet 345.

Continued

Advice Letter No. 15189 Supp.

Issued by

Date Filed: Nov. 20, 1986

Decision No.

M. J. Miller

Effective: Jan. 1, 1987

Executive Director - State Regulatory

Resolution No.

NETWORK AND EXCHANGE SERVICES

A5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE (Cont'd)

5.2.5. LOCAL SERVICE OPTIONS (Cont'd)

E UNIVERSAL LIFELINE TELEPHONE SERVICE (Cont'd)

2. REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

a. The following criteria for eligibility apply to ULTS: (Cont'd)

(2) There is only one exchange access line serving the residence premises.

(3) For the fiscal year for which the service is provided, based on current income, the applicant's total household income does not exceed the following:

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	INCOME LIMITATION
1,2	\$17,750 (T)
3	20,910
4	25,090
5	29,270
6	33,450
7	37,630 (T)
Each Additional Member	4,180 (T)

(4) No person who is claimed as a dependent on another person's income tax return shall be eligible for ULTS.

(5) The applicant's total household income is subject to verification by the California Public Utilities Commission or by the utility.

(6) For self-employed applicants the net business income shown on IRS form 1040, schedule C, line 29 shall be used to determine eligibility for Universal Lifeline Telephone Service (ULTS).

Continued

NETWORK AND EXCHANGE SERVICES
A5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE (Cont'd)

5.2.5 LOCAL SERVICE OPTIONS (Cont'd)

E. UNIVERSAL LIFELINE TELEPHONE SERVICE (Cont'd)

2. REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

b. Certification

- (1) The applicant will self-certify eligibility for ULTS. Recertification is required annually or at any time the qualifying criteria for recipients change.
 - (2) New applicants for telephone service ordering ULTS are required to return a signed self-certified form (see Schedule Cal.P.U.C. No. A2.3) to the Utility within 45 days or service will be changed to the regular tariffed rate. The full rate (excluding usage) will be retroactive to the date the ULTS rate commenced. Also, if service and labor charges were billed at the discounted ULTS rate, the amount of the discount will be back billed. The three (3) month limitation to back bill, as set forth in Schedule Cal.P.U.C. No. A2.1.9 is not applicable to the recurring and nonrecurring charges. The regular change of service charge will also be applicable. Applicants who do not return a signed self-certification form to the Utility within 45 days will be subject to normal deposit requirements.
 - (3) The Utility will mail recertification forms annually to each recipient of ULTS. If the certificate is not received by the Utility within 60 days, the Utility will assume that the customer is no longer eligible. The service will be converted to the regular tariffed rate for the type and grade of service furnished. No charge will be applicable for the change in service.
- c. ULTS is not available for foreign exchange (FEX), foreign prefix (FPS), Multiparty Farmer Lines, Personal ISDN, or Residence Trunk Line Service.
- d. Additional service and equipment are not included in the ULTS rate, but will be provided to ULTS customers at applicable tariffed rates.

Continued

NETWORK AND EXCHANGE SERVICES

A5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE (Cont'd)

5.2.5 LOCAL SERVICE OPTIONS (Cont'd)

E. UNIVERSAL LIFELINE TELEPHONE SERVICE (Cont'd)

2. REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

e. Deposits

(1) Establishment of Credit - ULTS Residence Applicants

A deposit will not be required if a ULTS applicant voluntarily accepts toll restriction as described in Schedule Cal.P.U.C. No. A2.1.2.

(T)

A deposit will be required if the ULTS applicant has an outstanding telephone bill with a telephone company in California, and refuses toll restriction.

(T)

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(T)

When the Utility requires a deposit, the deposit amount will be determined in accordance with Schedule Cal.P.U.C. No. A2.1.7.

(2) Reestablishment of Credit - ULTS Residence Applicants.

- A customer whose service has been discontinued for nonpayment of bills will be required to pay any unpaid balance due the Utility for the premises at which service is to be restored, to pay a reconnection charge as prescribed in Schedule Cal.P.U.C. No. A2.1.11 under "Restoral or Service Charge", and to either accept toll restriction or reestablish credit by making a deposit as prescribed in Schedule Cal.P.U.C. No. A2.1.7, before service is restored.

(T)

- An applicant who previously has been a customer of the Utility and during the last twelve months of that prior service, has had service temporarily or permanently discontinued for nonpayment of bills, will be required to pay any unpaid balance due the Utility and to either accept toll restriction or reestablish credit by making the deposit prescribed in Schedule Cal.P.U.C. No. A2.1.7.

(T)

f. Unless otherwise stated herein, all rule provisions of Schedule Cal.P.U.C. No. A2. shall apply.

g. Regulations not found herein are as set forth in other sections of this Schedule.

Continued

NETWORK AND EXCHANGE SERVICES
A5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

- 5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE (Cont'd)
5.2.5. LOCAL SERVICE OPTIONS (Cont'd)
E. UNIVERSAL LIFELINE TELEPHONE SERVICE (Cont'd)
2. Regulations (Cont'd)

- h. Customers qualifying for ULTS will be entitled to discounted installation of a primary access line as shown in Section E.4.d following.

Existing customers qualifying for ULTS will be charged the ULTS change of service charge for change in class, type or grade of service, as shown in Section E.4.b following.

- i. Recipients of ULTS must notify the Utility when they no longer qualify for ULTS or if the service no longer meets the household's needs. Upon receipt of the notification, the Utility will change the service to the regular tariffed rates for the service furnished. No charge will be applicable for this change in service.

If the Utility discovers that conditions exist which cause the recipient not to qualify for ULTS, the customer will be notified that the service will be converted to regular tariffed rates, retroactive to the date the customer can prove they became ineligible. If the customer cannot prove when they became ineligible, the Utility will bill the customer retroactive to the last certification date. The rate billed will be the difference between the ULTS rate and the regular full rate, excluding usage, and will include nonrecurring charges, if applicable.

The three (3) month limitation to backbill, as set forth in Schedule Cal.P.U.C. No. A2.1.9 is not applicable to the recurring and nonrecurring charges.

Customers no longer qualifying for ULTS will be subject to the Utility's rules applicable to the establishment or reestablishment of credit and subject to normal deposit requirements.

No charge will be applicable for this change in service.

- j. ULTS customers will not have their ULTS service discontinued solely for non-payment of toll charges. This does not restrict the Utility's right to discontinue a customer's ULTS service for other reasons as set forth in Schedule CAL.P.U.C. No. A.2.11 and 31. The Utility will apply toll restriction to a ULTS customer's line when toll charges are not paid.

(N)

(N)

3. Reserved

Continued

NETWORK AND EXCHANGE SERVICES
A5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

- 5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE (Cont'd)
5.2.5. LOCAL SERVICE OPTIONS (Cont'd)
E. UNIVERSAL LIFELINE TELEPHONE SERVICE (Cont'd)

4. Rates and Charges¹

a. Basic exchange service:

	<u>MONTHLY RATE</u>
- Measured rate ²	RR
- Flat rate ²	RR

b. Change Service Charge

50% of Change of service in A.3.2.6.b RR

c. Toll Blocking

No Charge

d. Service installation of a primary access line for qualified ULTS customers will be charged at the rates below:

	<u>SERVICE CHARGE³</u>
ULTS, Flat or Measured	
First installation within a 12 month period	\$ 9.50 (R)
Each subsequent installation	\$16.50 (R)
Within the same 12 month period at a principal place of residence with a different address from the first installation	

NOTE 1: All monthly rates will be rounded to the next lowest one cent (1¢).

NOTE 2: 50% of the applicable exchange's measured rate service or flat rate service as set forth in Schedule Cal.P.U.C. No. A5.2.2

NOTE 3: The Utility does not levy interest charges on payments made within 12 months of each service installation.

Continued

NETWORK AND EXCHANGE SERVICES

A5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE (cont'd)

5.2.5 LOCAL SERVICE OPTIONS (Cont'd)

E. UNIVERSAL LIFELINE TELEPHONE SERVICE (Cont'd)

4. RATES AND CHARGES¹ (Cont'd)

e. Reserved

f. Reserved

g. ULTS - all day/hours

Measured rate service is provided with an allowance of 60 untimed (T)
local calls. Local messages over this designated allowance are
provided at the rate following:

	<u>Rate Per Message</u>
- 61 and over	\$.08

NOTE 1: All monthly rates will be rounded to the next lowest one cent (1¢).

Continued

NETWORK AND EXCHANGE SERVICES
A5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

- 5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE (Cont'd)
5.2.5 LOCAL SERVICE OPTIONS (Cont'd)
E. UNIVERSAL LIFELINE TELEPHONE SERVICE (Cont'd)

5. UNIVERSAL LIFELINE TELEPHONE SERVICE SURCHARGE

Pursuant to Decision 94-09-065, a surcharge will be applied to all end user telecommunications intrastate services, both within a service area and between service areas. This percentage rate surcharge shall be described on subscribers' bills as Universal Lifeline Telephone Service Surcharge. This surcharge percentage will change as ordered by the Commission and will remain in effect until otherwise ordered by the Commission. (T)
(T)
(T)
(T)

The surcharge applies to all monthly service billed in advance for all usage billed after January 1, 1995. Except as noted below, the surcharge applies to all recurring and nonrecurring rates and charges for services provided under the utility's tariff schedules, all Category III services and new or modified General Order 96-A contracts executed after September 15, 1994.

Exceptions:

- One-way Radio Paging Service
- Universal Lifeline Telephone Service (basic monthly exchange services)
- COPT Service - (Partial) Coin Sent Paid (D)
- IntraLATA Message Toll Telephone Service (Partial) Coin Sent Paid, Coin Station Service, and Coin Person Service (D)
- General Order 96-A contracts executed prior to September 15, 1994.
- Access charges billed to carriers which have a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
- Pacific Bell Information Services - Category III Services
- Pacific Bell Directory Advertising
- 175-T, Section 18 - Services for Resale
- Directory Number Call Forwarding

The following taxes and surcharges are not revenues and should not be included:

- Surcharge to Fund California Public Utilities Commission Utilities Reimbursement Fee
- Universal Lifeline Telephone Service Surcharge
- Deaf and Disabled Surcharge
- California High Cost Fund Surcharge
- FCC Network Access Charges for Interstate Calling

Continued